



Faith
Lutheran Church
505-2nd Street

Faith and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches (ELCA) Calamus Lutheran Parish

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Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
2589-190th Avenue

Volume 36

April 2023

Number 4

Pastor's View

Dear Siblings in Christ,

In just a few short days we will be celebrating Easter, the resurrection of Jesus, and his triumph over death and the grave! While I am normally one to give Lent its due season, please forgive me for a moment as I jump ahead a bit to the Easter season. Easter is the most important day and celebration we have as Christians. For us in the Northern hemisphere, Eastertime often feels like it's not only about Christ's resurrection, but the resurrection of Springtime, with plants and flowers blooming or starting to bloom soon.

When we think about Easter and Jesus's resurrection, what comes to mind? For many of us, perhaps the first thing that comes to mind is life after death. This is a wonderful thing to think of first! We do not have to fear death because our hope is in the resurrection of Jesus, and we can be comforted in this as we think of our own loved ones who have already died. There is joy and hope in the Easter truth that death does not have the last word over any of our lives.

But what does Easter mean for us right now? I think if we only think about the good news of Easter in terms of life after death, we have made resurrection, we have made Easter, too small of an event. Jesus's resurrection has real implications for us in this life right now. We know that separation and death are not just confined to the day we or someone else literally dies. Separation and death happen in so many ways: over broken relationships, when people do not have access to food and shelter, places where people and animals are abused, and the list can go on. The new life that Jesus brings on Easter isn't just for when we die, but is for all of those situations and so many others too. The new life we find in Jesus on Easter gives us the courage to repair relationships, to care for others who do not have what they need, and to love all people, all animals, and all of creation with reckless abandon.

The joy of Easter is not just a comfort for when we die, but that is so important too. The joy of Easter is real for each of us right now and matters right now. It gives all of us new life right now. We are free to love this world with reckless abandon, which is the same way that God loves you in Jesus Christ.

As we enter into the final days of our Lenten journey, may the knowledge of Jesus's reckless love for you comfort you as we remember his death and bring you joy when we celebrate that he is alive.

In Christ's Reckless Love,
Pastor Leah



Holy Week Schedule



**MAUNDY
THURSDAY**

Maundy Thursday

April 6

7:00 p.m. at Our Savior's Church



Good Friday

April 7

7:00 p.m. at Faith Church



Easter Sunday

April 9

8:00 a.m. Worship at Our Savior's

9:00 a.m. Breakfast at Savior's

9:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt at Our Savior's

10:30 a.m. Worship at Faith

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center

presents

Stations of the Cross



2:00 – 3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 7

Local actors will portray the people surrounding Jesus during the week preceding his crucifixion.

Admission is FREE, but registration is suggested.

Check out the retreat website or call 563-374-1092.

The retreat center is located south of Wheatland.

40 Days of Giving

Calamus Lutheran Parish has been gathering **Peanut Butter** (chunky or smooth, any size, any brand) for the Carroll Assistance Center in Wheatland during the season of **Lent** from Ash Wednesday (February 22) through Easter Sunday (April 9).

HELP is appreciated: All parish junior high and high school youth and their parents are asked to help prepare for the Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt. Eggs will be stuffed and tables set at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, April 5, at Our Savior's**. Food needs to be ready to serve at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 9.

Youth Schedule for April

Wednesday, April 5, events are at Our Savior's beginning with confirmation at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays – April 12, 19, and 26

Confirmation

6:00 p.m. at Faith

Bible Jam

7:30 p.m. at Faith

Junior high and high school students are welcome to come for food, faith, fellowship, and fun!

High School Bible Study

8:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Faith

Pastor Leah meets with 11th and 12th grade students.

Youth-led Service

Sunday, April 23

10:30 a.m. at Faith

Naomi Circle Bible Study

Wednesday, April 12

10:00 a.m. at Diane Christensen's home



“The Ten Commandments: Reviving the Soul”

by Christa Von Zychlin

March/April issue of *Gather* magazine

Noisy Offering collected Sunday, April 16



The 2023 recipient of the Noisy Offering is St. Peter Lutheran Church, Ft. Myers Beach, Florida. The church building was heavily damaged in Hurricane Ian.



March Meetings

~~ Joint Council ~~

Meetings followed the midweek Lenten service at Faith on Wednesday, March 15.

Present: Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen; Our Savior's: Jason Boussetot, Dan Burke, Deb Detlefs, Amy Glover, Mary Timmerman; Faith: Brittany Hoffmann, Luke Shelton

Pastor's Report

- Visits are going well.
- Confirmation students are helping with midweek Lenten services.
- Was asked by Wartburg to be part of the internship task force for supervising interns. Pastor Bill previously did this.
- Went to a synod Lenten renewal event in Lost Nation for rostered ministers and ministry professionals.
- Participated in "Lutheran Day on the Hill" at the state capitol in Des Moines. Discussed refugees, access to mental healthcare, and access to Medicaid.
- Wrote a thesis in seminary and was asked to condense and submit it to a theological journal.
 - It was published on March 14.

God Squad

- 3 youth from CLP and 10 youth from CFLC met on Sunday, February 26, in Wheatland for dodgeball.
- Collected 56 boxes of band-aids for the Stead Family Children's Hospital in Iowa City.
- 3 youth are interested in attending the ELCA 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans.
- Talked about summer camp options for 2023.
- Will serve the March 22 Lenten meal.
- Bowling at DeWitt Lanes on Sunday March 26.
- Planning Easter breakfast.
- Working on the April 23 youth-led worship service.

Worship Committee

- Palms are ordered for Palm Sunday.
- Maundy Thursday will have foot washing.
- Good Friday is a narrative Gospel reading.
- Would like to cancel services in Calamus on Sunday, June 25, when the Nilsens baptize their baby at Trinity Lutheran in Pleasant Valley.

Christian Outreach Committee

- Peanut butter drive for Carroll Assistance Center is going well.
- Feeding the Children is continuing with members of the committee taking turns delivering the meals to the school.

Old Business

- Computers - Everything is done.
- Copy Machine - It is on order.
- Pastor's Maternity Leave
 - Almost everything is organized.
 - All Sundays filled for leading worship.
 - Could use a couple more people for delivering communion to homebound.
 - Need to start publishing Pastor Dennis Rodenberg's phone number (563-880-5345) in the bulletins as an emergency contact.

New Business

- Personnel/Child Protection Policies - Need to review and approve policy for staff. Intended to keep everyone safe. Deb, Brittany, and Dan volunteered to review samples from the synod and formulate policies for Calamus Lutheran Parish.

~~ Our Savior's Council ~~

Financials

Transferred \$5,000 from the money market to the general account. A \$1,100 bill for LP and a few other things are due this month. Now reinvesting dividends back into the funds instead of the money market.

Old Business

- Handicap Entrance/Bathroom Updates - A company that installs wheelchair lifts and small elevators looked at the project. There is not enough room for stairs and a chair lift. They do have a lift similar to Faith's that would require an outside door. There would be a front and back door on the lift. The base price is \$36,950. There are 3 options; smallest is the base price and \$500 for each size increment. Met with a carpenter to discuss both the lift and bathrooms. Asked for an estimate based on the largest size lift. Awaiting that bid.
 - Vacuum - The robot vacuum runs Monday and Saturday mornings in the sanctuary. Something may need to do be done with cold air return grates to keep the vacuum from falling in.
 - Gutters - Southeast side is still leaning over the Sunday school door. Will be repaired when the old church is re-sided.

New Business

- After-Prom Donation - Motion by Deb to donate \$50 was seconded by Dan. Motion carried.
- Furnace - blower motor needs to be replaced.
- Outside Lights - One on south side of the Sunday school addition has not been working. One out of the three on the west side are not lit. They may need to be replaced. Also might want to replace the front door lights.
 - Parsonage Flooring - Previously talked about replacing the kitchen and dining room flooring. Will confirm the estimate of \$3,199 still stands.

~~ Faith Council ~~

No meeting for lack of a quorum.

Next Joint Council Meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, at Our Savior's.

To contact **Pastor Leah**,
please use her cell phone number: **(262) 914-9392**

In case of emergencies or funerals
while Pastor Leah is on maternity leave, please call
Pastor Dennis Rodenberg at **(563) 880-5345**.

Thank you to everyone who made our baby shower so special and fun! We are so grateful for the many ways people have share their love for us for our newest addition! ~ Pastor Leah and Stephen

MINISTERS for April 2023

If you cannot do your task on the day assigned, it is your responsibility to trade with someone or to find your own substitute and notify the church office of the change.

FAITH CHURCH

Ushers:

Alan Lee
Brian Tulley

Acolyte:

Alena Wilhelm

Communion Assistant:

Dirk Braet

Lectors:

April 2: Shelley Witt-Gentile
April 9: Heather Whitman
April 16: Sarah Tulley
April 23: Youth-led Service
April 30: Mark Witte

Altar Ministry:

Annette Braet
Ruth Braet

OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH

Usher:

Joe Morehead

Acolyte:

Faith Will

Communion Assistant:

Cindy Burke

Lectors:

April 2: Amy Glover
April 9: Joe Morehead
April 16: Eva Burke
April 23: Deb Detlefs
April 30: Neil Holmquist

Cleaners:

Deb and Ray Detlefs

April 2023

Calamus Lutheran Parish

NOTE: Sunday worship is also online at www.clp parish.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OS = Our Savior's Church F = Faith Church						1
2 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F Palm Sunday	3	4	5 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Our Savior's Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Our Savior's HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Our Savior's	6 7:00 pm Worship at Our Savior's Maundy Thursday	7 Stations of the Cross 2:00 – 3:30 pm Our Lady of the Prairie south of Wheatland 7:00 pm Worship at Faith Good Friday	8
9 8:00 Worship – OS Breakfast at Our Savior's Egg Hunt at Our Savior's 10:30 Worship – F Easter	10	11	12 Naomi Circle 10:00 am at Diane Christensen's home Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Education Committee 7:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	13 Outreach Committee 6:00 pm at OS Worship Committee 6:30 pm at OS Joint Council 7:00 pm at OS	14	15
16 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	17 May newsletter items are due in the church office.	18	19 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	20	21	22
23 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Youth-led Service at Faith 30 ----- 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	24	25	26 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	27	28	29